

10/577, 415

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Please amend the Specification as follows:

On page 1, before line 5, please insert "Field of The Invention".

On page 1, before line 28, insert "Background of The Invention".

On page 8, after line <sup>22</sup>~~23~~, insert "Summary of The Invention".

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On page 9, after line 23, insert:

"Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a schematic flow sheet of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 2 is schematic flow sheet of an alternate embodiment of S1, S2, S3 and C4 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is schematic flow sheet of an alternate embodiment of S1, S2, S3 and C4 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is schematic flow sheet of an alternate embodiment of S1, S2, S3 and C4 of Figure 1."

On page 9, before line 24, insert "Detailed Description of The Invention".

AMEND THE ORIGINAL

~~After page 30, insert the following abstract:~~

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"Abstract

The present invention relates to a method for purifying (meth)acrylic acid obtained by oxidising propane, propylene, acrolein, isobutane, isobutene, ter-butyl alcohol, (meth)acrolein and mixtures thereof by sending the gaseous reaction mixture to the bottom of a countercurrent absorption column (C1) which is supplied at the top with at least one type of hydrophobic heavy solvent, sending the flow (2) from the bottom of column (C1) to a light component separation column (C2) and sending the flow from the base of column (C2), stream (4) to a separation device made up of three sections, exhaustion (S1), concentration (S2) and rectification (S3) respectively in order to extract pure (meth)acrylic acid."